

Starshine Mountain

Corrinne James

Last year, I proposed to create a film called *Juniper*. I envisioned this film embodying elements of my animations within sculptural form. I have changed the name of the film to *Starshine Mountain*, furthering my idea to explore the unknown, within the form of an unclaimed planet.



The film is made up of two essential parts. The first of these parts is a five minute animation that narrates a story of a woman who accidentally destroys the planet and follows her efforts to find a new planet to exist upon. The animation uses digital and hand-drawn animation techniques, and was the focus of my efforts from September to January of this year.



The second part of this film, following the woman when entering the new planet, changes from animation to live-action and is shot with a mini DV camera. This part of the film has pushed me to engage with sculptural mediums, especially affordable mediums, so I have created a forest of trees out of papier-mâché and spray foam.





The story itself is nonsensical, and is meant to be seen in reference to the color, narration, and sound choices I have included within the film. The narrative focuses upon the guilt that comes with environmental destruction, as well as the desire to fix one's mistake. As of now, I have completed the animation and the trees, and am shooting the live-action scenes this weekend.



I have learned a valuable amount of information about myself as an artist as I have worked on the project. *Starshine Mountain*, by the end of completion, will have taken nine months to construct. This is the longest film process I have ever engaged with, and it has taught me about patience, control, and adaptation. I have had to add and subtract different elements of animation and sculpture while creating this film, in order to make sure that the narrative is digestible and interesting. It has been an extremely rewarding project to work on, but due to the fact that I still have to film the second half, I am anxious and awaiting the ways in which I will have to let go of some control in effort to let the film speak for itself. This is something which is difficult for me, due to my desire to control all aspects on my own work. The trees and the film will be on display during my thesis show at Ruffin Gallery, April 21st - 26th.